

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed 12 June 2006, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

Claims 1-22 were previously pending in this application. With this amendment, Claim 1 has been amended and Claim 8 has been canceled. The Applicants submit that the claims presented in this application are now drawn strictly to subject matter that the Examiner has indicated was allowable. Therefore, the Applicants submit that the case is in a case for immediate allowance, as discussed below.

Allowable Subject Matter: Claims 14-22

The Examiner has allowed Claims 14-22. The Applicants have not amended these Claims.

Allowable Subject Matter: Claim 8

The Examiner has objected to previously pending Claim 8 as being drawn to allowable subject matter but being dependent upon a rejected base claim. As the Examiner suggests, this subject matter is now presented as an independent claim that includes all limitations of previous Claim 8 and the claim from which it depended, Claim 1. This has been done by amending Claim 1 to include the limitations of Claim 8. The subject matter of previously presented Claim 8 now being present in Claim 1, Claim 8 has been canceled.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-7 and 9-13 as being unpatentable over the '513 patent to Sivaprakasam. Claims 2-7 and 9-13 all depend from Claim 1. As noted above, the Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the limitations of Claim 8, which the Examiner indicated was drawn to subject matter that is allowable over the '513 patent. With this amendment, the Applicants submit that Claims 1-7 and 9-13 are now

drawn to allowable subject matter, and respectfully request that the Examiner pass independent Claim 1, as well as Claims 2-7 and 9-13 which depend from it, to allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of the remarks presented herein, the Applicant submits that all outstanding rejections to the pending claims have been overcome, and that the case is in condition for immediate allowance and respectfully requests such action. If any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's counsel at the number provided below so that a resolution can be most effectively reached.

Respectfully submitted,


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11 Sep 06
Date